

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 SAM-01 IO-14 SAJ-01 OMB-01 NIC-01

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P R 231621Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4198

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 4145

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, CY, TU, NL

SUBJ: FONMIN VAN DER STOEL'S VISIT TO GREECE

REF: THE HAGUE 4143

SUMMARY: FONOFF EUROPEAN DIRECTOR DE HOOP SCHEFFER
CALLED IN CHARGE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 23, ON INSTRUCTIONS
OF FONMIN VAN DER STOEL, SO THAT US WOULD HAVE BACK-
GROUND ON VAN DER STOEL'S UPCOMING VISIT TO ATHENS WHICH
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WAS ANNOUNCED IN THE HAGUE THAT MORNING. PURPOSE OF

VISIT, WHICH WILL BE MADE AT INVITATION OF GREEK FONMIN MAVROS, WILL BE BOTH PSYCHOLOGICAL-TO HELP GOG OVERCOME PRESENT STATE OF ISOLATION-AND PRACTICAL-TO GET FIRSHAND ACCOUNT OF RECENT EVENTS AS WELL AS GOG VIEWS AND PLANS RE THE FUTURE. VAN DER STOEL HAS NO INTENTION OF PLAYING ANY INTERMEDIARY ROLE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY, BUT IF ASKED WILL TRANSMIT A MESSAGE FROM GOG TO GOT. END SUMMARY.

1. DE HOOP SCHEFFER SAID FONMIN VAN DER STOEL AND HIS PARTY COMPRISING OF POLITICAL DIRECTOR GENERAL VAN SYNDEN, FONOFF PRESS SPOKESMAN BREMAN, AND DE HOOP SCHEFFER, WILL ARRIVE IN GREECE AUGUST 30, HAVE DAY OF 31ST FOR MEETINGS, AND RETURN TO THE HAGUE ON SEPTEMBER 1. THIS WILL BE A WORKING VISIT COMPARABLE TO VISIT VAN DER STOEL PAID TO LISBON SOON AFTER APRIL 25 COUP THERE AND WILL NOT RPT NOT REPLACE OFFICIAL VISIT TO GREECE WHICH VAN DER STOEL HAS BEEN INVITED TO MAKE LATER AT A TIME OF HIS CHOOSING.

2. VAN DER STOEL WILL NOT RPT NOT BE SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE EC-9, ALTHOUGH HE WILL DISCUSS GREECE'S REASSOCIATION WITH THE EC AS WELL AS ITS RE-ENTRY INTO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO NATO. DE HOOP SCHEFFER SAID GON RECOGNIZES THAT LATTER POINT WAS A SENSITIVE ONE FOR THE GREEKS AND VAN DER STOEL DID NOT PROPOSE TO APPLY ANY SUASION FOR AN EARLY RESUMPTION OF GREEK MILITARY COMMITMENT TO NATO. ON BEHALF OF THE NETHERLANDS VAN DER STOEL WILL SEEK TO GIVE MORAL SUPPORT TO THE GOG AND ASSURE MAVROS AND HIS OTHER "PALS" IN THE GREEK CABINET THAT WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ARE FOLLOWING EVENTS IN GREECE CLOSELY AND THE GOG SHOULD NOT FEEL ISOLATED.

3. VAN DER STOEL ALSO EXPECTS TO GET A FIRSHAND ACCOUNT OF RECENT EVENTS IN GREECE AND CYPRUS AND WILL PROBE THE VIEWS AND PLANS OF GOG LEADERS RE THE FUTURE. VAN DER STOEL DOES NOT INTEND TO SERVE AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY, BUT IF ASKED WILL AGREE TO TRANSMIT A MESSAGE FROM ATHENS TO ANKARA
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BUT NOTHING MORE.

4. IN LATTER CONNECTION, DE HOOP SCHEFFER MENTIONED THAT VAN DER STOEL HAD AGREED WITH REQUEST OF TURKISH SENATOR KAMURAN INAN (REPORTEDLY A MEMBER OF THE JUSTICE PARTY AND AT ONE TIME SPOKESMAN FOR THE TURKISH DELEGATION TOO NATO) TO VISIT HIM ON AUGUST 28. TURKISH AMBASSADOR CANKARDES, WHO PRESENTED INAN'S

REQUEST TO VAN DER STOEL, APPARENTLY DID NOT KNOW EXACTLY WHAT LAY BEHIND IT BUT HINTED AT POSSIBILITY OF MESSAGE TO GOG WHICH AGAIN, DE HOOP SCHEFFER SAID, VAN DER STOEL WOULD BE WILLING TO TRANSMIT. VAN DER STOEL TOOK OCCASION OF HIS MEETING WITH CANKARDES TO GIVE HIM BACKGROUND ON VAN DER STOEL'S UPCOMING VISIT TO ATHENS AND TO EXPRSS THE HOPE THAT GOT WOULD UTILIZE EXISTING POSSIBILITIES TO HELP GREECE TO RETURN TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE. VAN DER STOEL ADDED THAT GREECE FOUND ITSELF SOMEWHAT HUMILIATED BY SUCCESS OF RECENT TURKISH ACTIONS ON CYPRUS AND NEEDED A GESTUREBY THE GOT TO PUT IT IN A FRAMEOF MIND TO NEGOTIATE.

5. COMMENT: WE DO NOT BELIEVE VAN DER STOEL'S BRIEF VISIT TO ATHENS STEMS FROM ANY DESIRE ON HIS PART TO UPSTAGE HIS EC COUNTERPARTS, MUCH LESS TO COMPLICATE TASK OF US AND UK IN GETTING NEGOTIATIONS STARTED AGAIN. VAN DER STOEL IS ABOVE ALL A MAN TRUE TO HIMSELF, AND GIVEN HIS LONG-STANDING INTENSE INVOLVEMENT IN GREEK AFFAIRS, UNDOUBTEDLY FELT THAT HE COULD NOT IN GOOD CONSCIENCE TURN DOWN OR EVEN PROCRASTINATE ON MAVROS' INVITATION. AT THE SAME TIME, BEING A DUTCHMAN, VAN DER STOEL WILL TAKE A CERTAIN QUIET PRIDE IN THE FACT THAT HE WILL BE THE FIRST FONMIN TO VISIT ATHENS SINCE THE OVERTHROW OF THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT, JUST AS HE WAS THE FIRST FONMIN TO VISIT LISBON AFTER THE CHANGE OF REGIME THERE. IF THE DEPARTMENT HAS ANY VIEWS IT WISHES CONVEY TO VAN DER STOEL PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE, WE ARE CONFIDENT HE WILL BE RECEPTIVE TO THEM.
TANGUY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974THEHA04145
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740233-0705
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740821/aaaaarjc.tel
Line Count: 146
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: THE HAGUE 4143
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <26 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FONMIN VAN DER STOEL'S VISIT TO GREECE
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, GR, CY, TU, NL, (VAN DER STOEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005